

RENT RISES FACING EVICTED TENANTS

Complaints Pour In From the Families Ousted to Make Way for Spars and Waves

DRASTIC STEP MAY RESULT

Lyons Says He Will Move to Curb Landlords in Vicinity of Hunter College Unit

As the first families of the 613 that have received notices of eviction from thirteen apartments in the Kingsbridge section of the Bronx, which will be used to house Waves and Spars receiving instruction at near-by Hunter College, loaded their belongings on a van to go to their new homes, complaints continued to pour in about landlords raising the rents on apartments sought by the evicted families.

Borough President James J. Lyons indicated that drastic measures should be taken to prevent the profiteering.

"I appeal to the Bronx landlords to cooperate with Federal and city authorities by not jacking up rents in apartments in the vicinity," he said. "Nothing could be less patriotic than to impose on a situation of this kind. If these landlords do not cooperate, I think other steps should be taken to put them in line."

He did not say just what steps could be taken, but he believed the OPA could get a special ruling to declare the vicinity a war area and freeze rents.

The first family to move was that of Joseph A. Weintraub of 2769 University Avenue, vacating a four-room apartment and moving into another of the same size at 2728 Webb Avenue.

Mrs. Weintraub said they were paying their own moving expenses, although the Navy has said they will pay expenses within a two-mile area. When asked why she was moving so soon, she declared "It is our patriotic duty to help the government and get out as soon as possible." The Weintraubs have two children, 16 and 7, and Mr. Weintraub is a government employe.

Joseph Platzker, in charge of the listing office at 2761 University Avenue, which was set up by the Mayor's committee on property improvement as a vacancy listing bureau to help find apartments, said new complaints were being received continually about raising rents in vacant apartments in the vicinity. He said all complaints were being forwarded to the Mayor's office.

He added a good note, though, when he announced one large apartment house owner had reduced rents slightly to attract tenants. He said the owner did not want to gain by the deal—that he only wanted to keep a full house.

Fifty tenants of the thirteen buildings ordered vacated held a meeting at 95 West 195th Street last night and decided to appoint a committee to ask for an extension of time and for more monetary compensation. There were complaints of rent-gouging by other neighboring landlords. The landlords of the buildings to be evacuated were described as opposed to any extension on the ground that some apartments would be vacated before others and they would lose rent thereby.